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Sep 1st 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I live in a rural community and use the services of a local provider for my phone and internet. It was the only way I could afford to keep my land line. I do not have a cell phone and I do not want one. Even if I did choose to own a cell phone, the access in my rural area is sketchy.

Previous to using the local provider for all my services, I used CenturyLink. I HATED dealing with that company. For eleven months in a row I had to call them every time I got my bill to correct billing errors. And each call was over 45 minutes. It was a frustrating nightmare. I talked with CenturyLink reps hundreds, even thousands of miles from my location.

Now if I have an issue, the folks I speak with at my local provider are in my community. I like that the money stays in the community, and that by doing business locally, I am supporting jobs for my neighbors.

Competition in business is healthy. As a consumer, I like choices. And as a senior on a fixed income of only my social security, I will have to drop services if the lack of competition causes a rise in prices.

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